

INTIMATIONS.
1889. IN PREPARATION. 1889.
THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
For 1889.
Which is incorporated
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.
(TWENTY SEVENTH ANNUAL ISSUE).
COMPLETE, WITH APPENDIX, PLANS, &c., &c.,
Royal 8vo., Royal 8vo., \$5.00.
SMALLER EDITION, Royal 8vo., \$3.00.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
HAYE JUST RECEIVED THEIR
ANNUAL SUPPLY OF
LAWN GRASS SEED
AND
SWEET CORN.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
HONGKONG DISPENSARY
Hongkong, 16th January, 1899. [19]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.
Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.
Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.
All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until discontinued.
Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

MARRIAGE.
On the 10th January, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. J. E. O. assisted by the Rev. W. Jennings, Mr. J. E. O. and Miss M. J. O. were united in Holy Matrimony. The bride, Miss M. J. O., daughter of Mr. J. E. O., of Hongkong, was accompanied by Mr. J. E. O., of Hongkong, and the groom, Mr. J. E. O., of Hongkong, was accompanied by Mr. J. E. O., of Hongkong.

The Daily Press.
HONGKONG, JANUARY 17th, 1899.

The China tea trade continues steadily to decline, the total quantity exported during the season now closing being only 98,551,000 lbs. as against 116,240,000 lbs. and 149,435,710 lbs. in the two previous seasons respectively. A correspondent of the N. O. Daily News, in drawing attention to this alarming falling off, refers to the neglect by the Chinese authorities of the advice on the subject they asked and obtained from foreigners more than a year ago. He mentions, however, that the tea of this season has been on the whole carefully prepared and of satisfactory quality. This, we believe, may be in some measure attributed to the discussion which took place at the time mentioned, and to the fact of the attention of growers having been directed by official proclamations and other means to the necessity of greater care in the cultivation and preparation of the leaf. Some good has been accomplished, therefore, though a year is after all not a very long time in which to bring about great changes in a large and old established trade. For what has been accomplished in the direction of improving the quality of the tea there is good reason to be thankful. The correspondent hits the nail on the head, however, when he says that "while the Chinese are so kind as to continue to protect the Indian tea trade by burdening their own produce with heavy taxes (on common tea, over 50 per cent. of the total value) they cannot be surprised at the decline of their trade and at the corresponding success of their untaxed rivals." The competition has become too keen for the China trade to be able to support the taxation to which it is subjected. With the abolition of export duties it would be able to hold its own and probably to recover some of its lost ground, but while it is subjected to taxation as to represent a continuous decline is inevitable. The tax acts precisely as a differential tax imposed on imports into England would do. It is the consumer who has ultimately to pay the tax, and he will not continue to do so when there is a similar article on the market exempt from the particular tax represented by the Chinese export duty. When China was the only tea exporting country the tax might be levied with comparative safety, but things have entirely changed now. The falling off and prospective extinction of the China tea trade with Great Britain is a serious matter not only for tea merchants, but for importers of foreign goods, for where export is prejudicially affected the import trade must suffer likewise to some extent. If it does not show an actual falling off its expansion is retarded.

The colony is to be congratulated on the absence of small-pox this season. At the meeting of the Sanitary Board yesterday afternoon it was stated by the President that only two cases had been admitted to hospital, both from on board ship, one of which turned out to be chicken-pox and the other a very mild case of varioloid. The Registrar-General supplemented this by the statement that no deaths from small-pox had been reported. Whether equal immunity has been enjoyed during any previous winter we are unable to say, no statistics being available, but it has generally been supposed that small-pox was epidemic every winter and that last year's experience was only an aggravation of an annual recurrence. How far the freedom from the disease experienced during the present season may be due to the measures taken by the Sanitary Board in the promotion of cleanliness in the native houses, how far to the facilities afforded for vaccination, and how far to atmospheric conditions must remain mostly a matter of conjecture. Some portion of the gratifying result must, we

think, be attributed to sanitary precautions and to the spread of vaccination, but probably natural causes are the main factors. However this may be, it is to be hoped the freedom from any outbreak of the disease this season will not efface the lessons taught by the epidemic of last season, and that any future epidemic will not find us in the same state of unpreparedness that the last one did.

The report of the very interesting address delivered by the Pundit RAMANUJAM on Tuesday evening would be perused with interest by our readers yesterday morning. It is impossible to withhold sympathy from any one working in the cause of female emancipation in India, where women are practically held in bondage and the monstrous customs of infant marriage and compulsory widowhood exist. To sympathize with the movement of which Miss RAMANUJAM is one of the leading spirits it is not necessary to adopt Dr. EMMA RYDER's views as to the absolute likeness of the male and female brain. If sex is not discernible in the brain it only goes to show, as has been contended by many students of physiology, that intelligence and temperament are not dependent solely on that organ. What ever may be the likeness or difference between the mental characteristics of the two sexes, the view that woman, as well as man, should be afforded the opportunity of developing her faculties to whatever extent they may be capable of development, must commend itself to every one who has at heart the progress of the human race. Miss RAMANUJAM's movement must also commend sympathy for the amount of suffering it will prevent by rescuing many child widows, those unfortunate victims of habitual cruelty, from the life to which they have hitherto been condemned. Miss RAMANUJAM left for India yesterday by the P. & O. steamer *Sulley*. Many residents will no doubt regret that the community generally was not afforded an opportunity of seeing and hearing the interesting lady.

We publish today another instalment of our serial "Miss Eryn of Eryn Court."

We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Adamson, Bell & Co.) that the C. P. steamer *Parthia*, arrived in Vancouver on the 11th inst. from Japan.

The Agents (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire) inform us that the O. S. S. Co's steamer *Deception*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on Tuesday afternoon for this port.

We are informed by the Superintendent that the P. & O. steamer *Peninsular*, with the next outward English mail, left Singapore for this port on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at 5 p.m.

It is stated in the Shanghai papers that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has made a loan of 2,450,000, at five per cent. to the Chinese Government, for the construction of the railway between Tientsin and Tungchow.

Private advices from Tokio, Formosa, state that the official accounts of victories at Eilam and Changchun are gross fabrications, the truth being that the people have been paid to patch up a sort of peace, the obvious fact being remitted—N. O. Daily News.

By last advices from Java, says the *Strait Times*, the trial of the second batch of prisoners charged with insurrection and murder in the province of Banten, commenced yesterday before the Commission of the 3rd instance. Of 50 persons arraigned, 29 were condemned to death, and 22 were acquitted.

With reference to a case tried at the Police Court on the 4th inst., in which a man named The Kat, who was convicted of larceny, described himself as a clerk at the Tung Wah Hospital, the Commission of the 3rd instance. Of 50 persons arraigned, 29 were condemned to death, and 22 were acquitted.

There will be a football match at Cassebury Bay, between the 17th inst. between the 1st and 2nd Regiments, when the following will represent the Club—(Captain) E. M. Blair, E. A. M. Maclean, E. A. Ram, H. S. Woodcock, R. A. F. Maitland, F. N. Firth (forwards), G. Evans, W. W. Dickson (back), Captain Macdonald, and W. H. Wallace (backs), and G. Macdonald (goal). The Club team to wear white.

A correspondent writes to the *Singapore Free Press*—"I am sorry to have to inform you that Mr. N. M. Tan, assistant to the collector of the Straits Settlements (Mr. M. B. Brown) near Sandakan, was murdered on the 1st December, 1898, by Chinese. He was killed in the evening, and at the same time eight Chinese coolies were killed. The murder was committed in the town of Sandakan, and the late collector was caught and looked up during the night when they returned. The next morning they were questioned, but nobody pretended to know anything about the affair, while the other coolies tried to come to their assistance to relieve them. The "parangs" and kappas were then taken away from all the Chinese, and one Chinaman who had been promised \$100 to tell the truth, pointed out the murderers and informed the manager where the body could be found. The body was found the next day, the head found cut up and the body showing the marks of several blows. Still no one would confess, but after being further pressed on the subject they acknowledged having committed the murder, upon which they have been taken to Sandakan, where they are awaiting trial. All the planters are astonished that such a terrible affair should have happened with him."

The latest addition to the Kinning Line of steamers or the D. D. R. the *Agila*, arrived here yesterday morning from Hamburg via Penang and Singapore. She is commanded by Captain Charles Smith, and has been in service for four years and in the Company's service fifteen years. The *Agila* is a vessel of 1,650 tons, of the newest type. Her dimensions are length, 225 ft., breadth, 28 ft., and draught, 12 ft. She is built by the Flensburgske Skibsbyggeri, and is fitted with triple-expansion engines of 1,550 horse-power, and has a speed of 18 knots. She is also fitted with a passenger carrier, but there is splendid accommodation for twenty-two first-class and four second-class passengers in the after part. The ship is also fitted with a passenger carrier, but there is splendid accommodation for twenty-two first-class and four second-class passengers in the after part. The ship is also fitted with a passenger carrier, but there is splendid accommodation for twenty-two first-class and four second-class passengers in the after part.

The *Agila* is a vessel of 1,650 tons, of the newest type. Her dimensions are length, 225 ft., breadth, 28 ft., and draught, 12 ft. She is built by the Flensburgske Skibsbyggeri, and is fitted with triple-expansion engines of 1,550 horse-power, and has a speed of 18 knots. She is also fitted with a passenger carrier, but there is splendid accommodation for twenty-two first-class and four second-class passengers in the after part. The ship is also fitted with a passenger carrier, but there is splendid accommodation for twenty-two first-class and four second-class passengers in the after part.

We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Adamson, Bell & Co.) that the C. P. steamer *Parthia*, arrived in Vancouver on the 11th inst. from Japan.

The Agents (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire) inform us that the O. S. S. Co's steamer *Deception*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on Tuesday afternoon for this port.

We are informed by the Superintendent that the P. & O. steamer *Peninsular*, with the next outward English mail, left Singapore for this port on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at 5 p.m.

It is stated in the Shanghai papers that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has made a loan of 2,450,000, at five per cent. to the Chinese Government, for the construction of the railway between Tientsin and Tungchow.

Private advices from Tokio, Formosa, state that the official accounts of victories at Eilam and Changchun are gross fabrications, the truth being that the people have been paid to patch up a sort of peace, the obvious fact being remitted—N. O. Daily News.

By last advices from Java, says the *Strait Times*, the trial of the second batch of prisoners charged with insurrection and murder in the province of Banten, commenced yesterday before the Commission of the 3rd instance. Of 50 persons arraigned, 29 were condemned to death, and 22 were acquitted.

With reference to a case tried at the Police Court on the 4th inst., in which a man named The Kat, who was convicted of larceny, described himself as a clerk at the Tung Wah Hospital, the Commission of the 3rd instance. Of 50 persons arraigned, 29 were condemned to death, and 22 were acquitted.

The death return for the week ending the 9th December and the 5th January were laid on the table.

The President said that with regard to these returns he might say that two cases of this season, which were the only ones that had occurred in the colony as yet. Both were from China. One was a very trifling case of varioloid, with less than a dozen pimples on the chest, and the other turned out to be a case of small-pox. The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

The President said that there had been no case of small-pox in the colony at all then.

